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UNCLAS VATICAN 004242

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/WE-JLevin;
DEPT please pass to NSC

E.O. 12958 N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [VT](#)

SUBJECT: Message of Congratulations from Pope John Paul II
to President George W. Bush

REF: Hardt-Levin 11/4 fax

1. The Ambassador was asked by Holy See Secretary of State
Cardinal Angelo Sodano to convey the following message from Pope
John Paul II to President Bush.

Mr. George W. Bush
President
The United States of America

On the occasion of your re-election as President of the
United States of America I send cordial greetings and best
wishes, and I ask almighty God to assist you in your
responsibilities in the service of the Nation and the
international community. May the Lord's abundant blessings
sustain you and the beloved people of the United States in
meeting the many challenges which lie ahead.

IOANNES PAULUS PP. II"

2. Cardinal Sodano also asked the Ambassador to convey to
the President his "heartfelt congratulations and a promise
of my prayer, as he prepares to serve the people of the
United States for another term of office."

3. A copy of the original (faxed) message was sent to
EUR/WE (ref).

Nicholson

NNNN